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AN ESSAY ON Ordinary FEVERS.

AND

The METHODS to be uſed, to prevent their becoming ſo grievous, and mortal, as they are often found to be.

In THREE PARTS.

By JOHN CURRY, M. D.

Rationalem quidem puto Medecinam Eſſe debere, Inſtrui vero ab evidentibus Cauſis; deſcuris omnibus, non a Cogitatione Artificis, ſed ab Arte ipſa rejectis. CELS.

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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

THE INTRODUCTION.

IT has been obſerved, that Fevers have always been more frequent, and done more general Miſchief, than any other Diſorders whatſoever; that they

have often produced grievous and fatal Effects, even when they have ariſen from Accidents, ſeemingly, not dangerous; and that, far from being confined to the infirm, and Valetudinary, they are moſt apt to ſeize upon, and deſtroy Bodies, that are young, Vigorous, and ſound.

THESE Obſervations have long ſince induced me to endeavour to point out ſome Means (eaſy, and intelligible to the generality of

of People) to prevent, at leaſt in ſome Meaſure, ſo great an Evil; and I have fixed upon thoſe as the moſt probable and authentic, which are mentioned in the following Eſſay. For, in making Choice of them, I have not been influenced by any *Hypothetical* Reaſoning, how plauſible ſoever; but I have proceeded, ſolely, upon the ſure Footing of ſuch Obſervations of Phiſitians, as have been confirmed by long, and accu-

accurate Experience, and handed down to us through many ſucceeding Ages.

I have likewiſe ſubjoined a ſhort and plain, Account of the Production of the Symptoms of Fevers, as evidently deduced from Experience, and Obſervation; which Account, perhaps, I ſhall hereafter attempt to illuſtrate, and enlarge. But I ſhould be much better pleaſed to find ſome abler Perſon excited,

excited, by theſe imperfect Hints, to take that Taſk out of my Hands.

THE

ERRATA.

Page 8. l. 7. del. *before*, and put in *seen after*
pag. 59. l. 4. after *Humours*, put in *moving*.

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How

AN ESSAY ON Ordinary FEVERS, &c.

PART I.

Of the Causes by which Ordinary Fevers are often made grievous, and mortal.

1. WHAT (a) CELSUS has insinuated concerning Chronic Diseases, is, in some Respects, applicable to those that are called Acute, *viz.* That they are seldom mortal in their own Na-

(a) Medecin. p. 112.

ture: "And that, if a Phiſitian's "Advice, is followed from their Be-"ginning, hardly any dye of them, "unleſs through his Fault."

II. For the firſt Attacks of Fevers, (even of ſuch as are moſt dangerous) are generally ſo light, that People are apt to perſuade themſelves, that they can eaſily get rid of them, without the Pain of Confinement, or a ſtrict Regimen; and therefore many are ſeen walking abroad, for ſome Days, with the Sickneſs upon them, every Hour increaſing. And when they are at length forced to lye down under the Burden, which they find themſelves unable to ſhake off, they often think they act a prudent Part in delivering themſelves up to the Manage-

ment

ment of Persons, who (through a fatal, and too common Mistake) are deemed able, and honest enough to cure every slight, feverish Disorder.

III. And in this Sense it is strictly true, that many ordinary Fevers have been made grievous, and mortal, which, if rightly handled in the Beginning, would not have been attended with any considerable Prejudice.

IV. There is likewise some Reason to suspect, that the commonly-received Opinion of the Nature of these Diseases has a tendency to retard, and sometimes absolutely to hinder their Cure. The Opinion I mean, is, that "a Fever is excited by a Foulness, or "Distemperature in the Blood, which

" is, for that Reason, called the Febrile
" Matter; that this Disorder itself
" is a kind of Instrument which Nature
" makes Use of to clear the Blood
" of that Foulness; that (as *(a)* in the
" Separation of Wine, and other Fer-
" mentative Liquors) a certain num-
" ber of Days is necessary for carrying
" on, and compleating this figurative
" Work, and therefore that we ought
" not to think of removing this Fe-
" brile Matter in the beginning of the
" Sickness, while it is yet Crude, nor
" until such Time, as by some particu-
" lar Signs, it shall be found to at-
" tenuated, and concocted, as to be
" fit for what is called a Critical Ex-
" pulsion out of the Body.

V. This

(a) Vid. Etmull. de feb. p. 217. Bagliv. prax. p. 231.

V. This Opinion, I say, seems to be attended with no small Danger on account, among other Things, of the Delay, and inaction which it necessarily implys on the Part of the Physician. And I know not any (*a*) Evacuation whatsoever (bleeding itself not excepted) which, according to it, can with safety be advised in the Beginning of Fevers; or even until the Signs of Coction appear in them. For, as before this Time, no Separation is made of the pretended morbid Humors from the found, bleeding, and every other Evacuation that is then put in Practice, muſt indiſcriminately take away both; and perhaps, more of the Treaſure of Life, than of the Cauſe of the Diſeaſe! And when the Signs

(*a*) Vid. Bagl. prax. & Epiſt. ad Andry. Archib. Pitcairn Diſſ. de Opera quam Præſt. Corpa. Acida vel Alcal. &c.

Signs of (a) Coction have once appeared, every artificial Evacuation is, generally speaking, useless, if not hurtful. For, when Nature has of herself done so much towards a Cure in this, or any other Disorder, as to have brought about those Appearences by which the Coction of the Humours is said to be known, she seldom or never stands in need of the Assistance of Art to enable her to complete it.

VI. But the Truth is, that this Opinion had its rise in the very infancy of Physick; when Physitians were rather Observers than Assistants of Nature, which latter, however, they afterwards became in an eminent Degree, by Means

(a) Cognoscitur Coctio 1° quiete morbi, ejusq; decremento, &c. Boerh. Inst.

Means chiefly of ſuch Obſervation; and hence it was that few or no Medecines were then preſcribed by them in theſe, or any other Diſorders.

VII. If what we are told concerning putrid Fevers, and the morbific Matter in them be true, *viz*, that they conſiſt as *(a)* Galen affirms, in a Change of the whole Body into Corruption; or, as modern Phiſitians more cautiouſly expreſs it, that they are cauſed by an Alkaleſcence, or Degree of putrefaction in the Maſs of Blood, the Caſe of thoſe who are ſick of them muſt be very deplorable. For, to omit other Reaſons, ſuch a State of the Blood can be amended by no other Medecines, but a ſufficient Quantity of Acids intimately mixed

(a) Method. 11.

mixed, and blended with it; but this cannot be done by Acids given in the Usual way; for it is known by (a) Experience, that all acid Vegetables are very much altered in the Stomach and Guts; and that they are even made alkalescent, before they are Received into the Blood; and it is highly probable, that no Mineral Acids can be admitted through the Mouths of the lacteal Vessels.

VIII. And such shocking Ideas of any Distemper, when entertained by the Sick, are apt to make it, tho' light in its own Nature, both grievous, and mortal. For (b) great anxiety of Mind has often produced dangerous, and malignant Fevers in Bodies,

(a) Vid. Boyle Apud. Pitcair. Diss. de Opera quam prest, &c. Arbuth. on Aliments.
(b) Barth. in Act. Hafn. Vol. 1. Obs. 76.

dies, that were otherwiſe Sound. And (a) Writers of good Credit Aſſure us that, in the Beginning of the Plague itſelf, Numbers have been ſeized with that Diſeaſe, and Dyed of it, who Contracted it rather through fear of ſo great an Evil, than by any Contagion.

IX. From the critical Evacuations in Fevers having, very often, a ſtrong, fœtid Smell, and other Signs of Corruption in them, it has been generally concluded, that they muſt neceſſarily have been derived from an infected Source; and that the ſame morbid State of the whole Maſs of Humours muſt, therefore, have given riſe to theſe Diſtempers. But it may be as well inferred that an harſh ill-ſcented Perſpiration,

(a) Bag. p. 158. Hodg. de Peſt. p. 1, 2.

ration, to which many People enjoying good Health are subject, can be thought to shew, that the Blood of such People is in a State of Putrefaction, or that their Bodies are infected with putrid Fevers. *(a)* If a Vein be opened in these Diseases, while the most fætid Sweat is ouzing thro' the Pores of the Skin, there shall not be found the least, disagreeable Smell, or Taste in the Blood that is drawn. And therefore all that can be concluded from the above-mentioned Evacuations, is, that as the Matter of them is always obstructed, or otherwise altered in the Emunctorys themselves, *(b)* (which may happen many different Ways) they must necessarily have something preternatural in them;

(a) Gouraigne de feb. p. 275.

(b) Vid. de Gorter de Secret. hum. a Sanguine.

them, without implying, at the ſame Time, any original Impurity, or Corruption in the Maſs of Blood, from whence they were derived.

X. "The Humours that are critically "caſt forth in the Decline of Fevers, "ſays the judicious (b) SYDENHAM on "this Occaſion, are no doubt vitious, "although the Blood was before pure. "But this is not more to be wondered at, "than that ſome Part of our Food is "made corrupt, and fætid, after having "undergone a conſiderable change in the "Body, and been ſeparated from the reſt.

XI. UPON the whole, the Notion of a febrile Matter has not always been ſo univerſally entertained by Phiſi-

(a) De Febrib. p. 30.

tians, as ſome would have us believe. for we learn from (a) Celsus that Asclepiades, who had many Followers, ſeemed to ſhew no Regard to it in the Cure of Fevers. And many eminent Phiſitians, ſays (b) Prosper Alpinus, have maintained that good, and profitable Evacuations have happened in theſe Diſeaſes, before the Signs of Coction appeared in them. As for putrid Fevers, Trallian expreſly (c) aſſures us, that it was the Opinion of ſeveral among the Antients, that they do not ariſe from the Corruption of any other Humours, but thoſe that are contained in the Stomach and Guts, and that the vital Juices cannot be the Sub-

(a) Medecin, p. 118.
(b) De præſag. Vit. & Mor. p. 346.
(c) De Feb. p. 685, 686. Vid. Foreſt. de Feb. p. 87. Fernel. p. 453.

Subject of Putrefaction in these Cases. And (a) Sydenham, among the Moderns, does not scruple to affirm, that Fevers happen more frequently, without the Concurrence of any vitious Particles in the Blood, than otherwise.

XII. I must observe here, that it was a Point agreed upon by all the (b) antient Phisitians, that Diary Fevers are not excited by any peccant Matter inherent in the Blood, or humors; and that they were accordingly cured by them, in a very short Time, and by the simplest Methods. But although these Fevers were formerly accounted harmless, (and in their own Nature indeed they are so) yet we now often see them

(a) De Feb. p. 30.
(b) Vid. Part the 2d. of this Essay.

them made griveous, and mortal, by Ignorance and Neglect. For it is my Design to shew hereafter, that the Fevers, which now-adays do so much Mischief among us, for the most Part arise from the same Causes, and are of the same Nature, with the Diary in their Beginning.

XIII And it may be no improper Introduction to this Design, to take Notice before-hand, of that dangerous Custom, (so prevalent of late, though contrary to the Sentiments of the best Phisitians,) of Bleeding, Purging, and Vomiting in the Beginning of all Fevers without Distinction. For although these Remedys, when administered with Judgment, are of the greatest Service to the sick; yet nothing is more certain, than that an improper Application

of

of any of them, may make Nature (a) ſink under a Diſeaſe, which, if left to herſelf, ſhe might have eaſily overcome.

XIV. (b) Bleeding has been known to have kindled Fevers in Bodies, which, before they had undergone that Operation, had not the leaſt Diſpoſition to them. And the Writings both of antient and modern Phiſitians, are full of the ſtricteſt Cautions againſt opening a Vein in ſome Fevers, which impudent Pretenders frequently undertake to cure by profuſe Bloodletting. (c) Hyppocrates was ſo far from

(a) Nihil mirum ſi frequenter obſervamus ægros poſt Ordinatam Plebotomiam interire Statim —— idemq; Succedere poſt imprudenter præſcriptum Catharticum. Bagliv. p. 46.

(b) Thoner. Obſ. p. 48. Willis.

(c) Apud. Proſp. Mart. in Hyp. p. 591. Vid. Ramaz. Diſſert. 2da de Conſtut. An. 1691.

from Thinking Bleeding neceſſary in all Fevers, that he expreſly forbids it in ſome other Diſorders, on Account of their having Fevers joined with them.

XV. When, in the Beginning of theſe Diſeaſes, the Body is known to abound in Blood; when its Veins are turgid, and its Surface red, and inflamed, and when the Brain, or any other Viſcus, is threatened or attacked by this fullneſs; and no ſpontaneous Hemorage enſues; then indeed large, and ſometimes, repeated Bleeding, is not only ſafe, but neceſſary; but when, on the contrary, theſe Diſtempers happen to Perſons already weakend by exceſſive Labour, too frequent Venery, or great Evacuations; or when, from being intermit-

termitting, they become acute and continual; in ſuch Caſes I ſay, Bleeding has been often found pernicious, and always will be ſo.

XVI *(a)* The giving of purgative Medicines, in the Beginning of Fevers, has been generally forbidden by Phiſitians, ſince the Days of Hyppocrates, down to our own Times. Yet nothing is more common, than to tranſgreſs this eſtabliſhed Rule, on the moſt frivolous Pretences; and they who do ſo, never conſider that, as ſuch Medicines are always apt to increaſe the already too frequent *(b)* Oſcillations of the Solids, they bid much fairer to augment, than diminiſh theſe Diſorders, and their

(a) Hyp. Aphor. 24. Sect. 1.
(b) Vid. Bagl. Epiſt. ad Andry. & alios.

Symptoms. There is no Queſtion, but that ſharp, indigeſted Humours in the Guts, often produce Fevers, which muſt ceaſe as ſoon as theſe Cauſes have been removed; but it is equally certain, that this does not happen as often as it is pretended; and that when it does happen, ſuch Fevers do not require, or even admit of, CATHARTICS for their Cure. The following extraordinary Caſe, and the Obſervations naturally ariſing therefrom, may ſerve to put this Matter in a clearer Light.

XVII IN the Year 1738, a Man, of about fifty, was brought to the CHARITABLE INFIRMARY on the INS-QUAY, DUBLIN, with a Tumor in his Groin, which in due Time, and by proper Applications, came to Suppuration. He had complained, for ſome Time

Time before he was taken in there, of an Uneaſineſs, and Shooting Pain in the Part affected, but of no other Sickneſs. However, when this Tumor was opened, ſome Bones of a Chickens-neck were extracted from it; by which, and the Patients own Confeſſion, it appeared, that he had ſome Weeks before, haſtily ſwallowed down theſe Bones unchewed; and that they had gradually (a) forced themſelves a Paſſage through the Inteſtine, and the Parts about it, into his Groin. This Man eate, and ſlept well, when I ſaw him; and he had done ſo from the very Beginning of his Complaint, as he himſelf avered. And, while in the Infirmary, he was free from every Feverish Symptom, except

(a) Vid. Anton. Benivenii Obſ. cap. 101. Joan. Lang. Epiſt. 40. lib. 2. Alex. Benedict. Hiſt. Human. Corp. cap. 13. lib. 5.

except what the Suppuration of his Tumor naturally occasioned. Of this I was assured by Mr. Francis Duanny, one of the Surgeons of that Infirmary, who had often visited him while he was there, and by whom I saw some of these Bones taken out intire, with great Dexterity. Mr. Duanny likewise informed me, that Mr. Kelly, in his Turn of Visiting, had also extracted, from this Person, some Bones of the same Kind.

XVIII. Now if an Irritation of the Intestines, which was so great, that it at length destroyed Part of their Substance, did not produce any considerable Fever (which as I have said is indeed an extraordinary Case) may it not easily happen, that the so much feebler Stimu-

lus

lus of indigeſted Humours on theſe Parts, may be often hindred, by the Mucus which defends them, from having any ſuch Effect? And as in Caſe a Fever had enſued from that great Irritation, an Attempt to carry off theſe Bones by a Stimulating Purge, would in all probability, have increaſed the Evil, *(a)* (it being the only ſafe Method in ſuch Caſes, as when Fragments of Glaſs, Needles, or Corroſive Poiſons have been ſwallowed, to plye the Patient with a ſufficient Quantity of ſuch Liquids only, as are fit to ſoften, relax, and lubricate his contracted Inteſtines) ſo, whenever ſharp Cruditys in the Stomach, or Guts, have occaſioned a Fever, and it is, therefore, neceſſary to

(a) Vid. Bagliv. Boerhaave, Hoffman. & alios paſſim.

to empty these Parts, we should have Recourse to no other Remedys for that Purpose, but such as are lenient, and diluting, and as free as possible from any irritating Quality. Thus (a) Trallian, in the Cure of such Fevers, does not once mention emetic, or purgative Medicines; but advises the Digesting, and Washing away of these Cruditys with plentiful Draughts of warm Water only. And a more excellent Remedy, adds he, I know not for those who, being of an hot Temperament, fall into Diary Fevers from such a Cause.

XIX. In like Manner, when the Rigors, that commonly introduce Fevers, are caused, as they often are, by bilious

(a) p. 674.

bilious Humors lying in the Stomach, and a Vomit is therefore wanting to Diſcharge them, (*a*) Celsus directs nothing elſe for that End, but warm Water, ſeaſoned with a little Salt. And as the Caution of the Antients, in theſe Particulars, was wiſe, and worthy of Imitation, ſo is the Raſhneſs of ſome modern Practitioners, as much to be dreaded and avoided. For there is, (much oftener than is vulgarly imagined) an (*b*) Inflamation of the Stomach in theſe Diſorders; and ſo very latent this Inflamation ſometimes is, that it is with Difficulty diſcovered even by the moſt thinking, and experienced! (*c*) and Vomiting Medi-

(*a*) Medecin. p. 141.

(*b*) Frederic. Hoff. Diſſert. de inflam. Ventric.

(*c*) Profecto Veteranus hic habet quod timeat Medicus. Rega. de Conſenſ. part. p. 151.

Medicines to an inflamed Stomach are certainly pernicious. It has been beſides (a) obſerved, that Vomits, when given in ſuch Fevers as, in a particular Manner, attack the Head, have often produced fatal Symptoms in the Courſe of the Sickneſs, on Account of that Fullneſs, and Concuſſion of the Veſſels of the Brain, which they always occaſion.

XX. But if Bleeding, Purging, and Vomiting in the Beginning of all Fevers without Diſtinction, have often done Miſchief, there is not leſs to be feared from the too dilatory Practice of thoſe who, as we have already obſerved, have nothing elſe in View, in the Cure of theſe Diſtempers, but the gradual Correction, or diſtant Expulſion of ſome

(a) Wintringh. Comment. Noſo. p. 123.

some preconceived foulness of the Blood, or Humours. For while such are waiting for the imaginary Coction of a Febrile Matter, they are frequently Suffering the real Cause of the Disease to take such deep Root in some of the noble Parts, that it cannot, perhaps, be afterwards removed from thence, by any Efforts of Nature, or Art.

PART II.

Of the Sentiments of Antient, and Modern Phiſitians concerning Ordinary Fevers, and the Methods to be uſed to prevent their becoming grievous, and mortal.

I. BY Ordinary Fevers I underſtand ſuch, as happen to the Body, when otherwiſe ſound, and in Health, from outward, or ſenſible Cauſes; as from the taking of Cold, exceſſes in Eating or Drinking, immoderate Exerciſe of Body or Mind, the Suppreſſion of ſome uſual Diſcharge

charge, and the like. The Sentiments of antient and modern Phiſitians concerning the Nature of theſe Fevers, and their Events, are briefly as follow.

II. *(a)* ALL Fevers proceeding meerly from outward, or ſenſible Cauſes are, in their own Nature, ſimply DIARY; ſo called, from their commonly ending, or declining on the firſt Day; although they are ſometimes prolonged to the ſecond, or third,

III. *(b)* DIARY Fevers are not excited by any peccant Matter pre-exiſting in the Blood; yet they, for (the moſt Part, *(c)* precede other Fevers; and

(a) Vid. Gal. de feb. Ephem. & alios omnes.

(b) Id ibid. &c.

(c) Dolæus, p. 510.

(a) differ from them, chiefly by the mildneſs of their Symptoms and Cauſes; inſomuch, that the (b) ſame Cauſes which, when light, produce only DIARY Fevers, will, when more violent, occaſion ſuch as are often dangerous, and fatal.

IV. (c) DIARY Fevers are harmleſs in their own Nature, and never become griveous, or mortal, until by Ignorance, Miſmanagement, or neglect, they have been firſt changed into ſuch, as are known by the Name of putrid, hectic, malignant, or the like.

V. (d) WHEN a DIARY Fever is made by improper Treatment, Ignorance,

(a) Id. ibid.
(b) Fernel. p. 454, 456.
(c) Vid. Galen. & alios paſſim.
(d) Vid. Fernel. p. 455. Lom. Obſ. p. 2. &c.

rance, or neglect, to exceed the Term of three Days, it degenerates into a Fever of a worſe Kind; as likewiſe when it ſeems to decline without Sweat, or ſome dewy moiſture on the Skin.

VI. A Diary Fever then chiefly Turns into that which is called putrid, when the proper Occaſion of opening the Pores of the Skin has been neglected.

VII. That Diary Fevers are capable of being changed into ſuch as are very malignant, appears, among many other Inſtances, from the Sweating-Sickness that prevailed in England in 1486. For although this Sickneſs was called, and, in itſelf was no other but, the Britiſh Diary Fever, yet by

(a) Miſ-

(a) Mismanagement in stopping the Sweats, it became very grievous, and did great Mischief. (b) SENNERTUS informs us, that scarce one Patient, out of an hundred, was recovered from it.

VIII. As the DIARY Fever often (c) does Mischief before it is known, (and that chiefly because it is not known) it may not be amiss, to transcribe an History of it from FORESTUS, wherein he gives us the Rise, Progress, and Cure of it in his own Person.

IX. (d) "GOING to see a Patient, says "he, that lay at some Distance from "me, in a very cold and windy Season, "the

(a) Mead Discourse on pestil. Contag.
(b) De Sud. Angl. lib. 4. cap. 15.
(c) Gal. 1. ad Glauc. c. 2. Lom. obs. p. 2. &c.
(d) De feb. diar. fol 8.

" the Pores of my Skin were closed by
" the Sharpness of the Weather, and I
" fell ill of a Diary Fever. It seized
" me about Eleven o' Clock in the Mor-
" ning, not with a Shuddering, but with
" a Coldness that seemed to have pierced
" my Skin, and Muscles. But after I
" had placed myself by a Good Fire, I
" begun to be a little heated, without
" thirst; and my Pulse became quick-
" er, but was equal; about four in the
" Afternoon a Moisture came through
" my Skin, and I grew better. As I
" had taken no Nourishment through
" the whole Day, I then refreshed my-
" self with a little Ale, in which a small
" Quantity of Sugar, and Butter was
" boiled; and about six I went into a
" warm Bed, where covering myself
" up, I begun to Sweat. Neverthe-

less,

" leſs, about two Hours after, having
" felt ſuch a Pain in my Stomach, as
" had like to have made me faint, I
" took ſome Pearl-Sugar, by which
" Means I came again to myſelf, and
" my Pain and Anxiety vaniſhed.
" Then I fell into a Sweet Sleep, in
" which I paſt the whole Night, and
" a copious, Vaporoſe Sweat exhaled
" from the lower Parts of my Body.
" In the Morning, when I found my-
" ſelf intirely free from the Fever, I
" ordered the Sweat to be wiped off,
" having firſt uſed long, and gentle
" Friction, to open the Pores of my
" Skin."

X. IT has been already obſerved, that DIARY Fevers differ from others only

only in Degree; and as the Proceeding from outward, or ſenſible Cauſes is ſo diſtinguiſhing a Mark of them, that (a) Fernelius, and others tell us, even putrid Fevers, when occaſioned by ſuch Cauſes, are neceſſarily preceded by them, it follows that, (b) whenever we find ourſelves all at once ſeized, with any of the lighter Symptoms of a Fever, (as with a ſmall Rigor or Coldneſs, to which an unuſual Heat, Headach, Pain in the Stomach, or other Sickneſs, attended with a quick Pulſe, ſucceeds) and are, at the ſame Time, ſenſible that theſe Symptoms have ariſen from ſome outward or evident Cauſe, we may ſafely conclude that Fever to be ſimply Ephemera, to which, however

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(a) De Feb. Eph. Foreſt. fol. 4.
(b) Vid. Fernel. p. 452, Lom. Obſ. V. (a)

however a proper Remedy ſhould be immediately applyed, becauſe when theſe Diſorders, light as they are in their own Nature, have been neglected but a few Days, and the Symptoms above-mentioned have been all along felt, gradually increaſing, it is to be feared, that they are no longer Diary; but that they have degenerated into other Fevers, of much greater Danger, and Duration.

XI. The Method of Cure uſed by (a) Galen, and the antient Phiſitians in general, in Diary Fevers was (beſides a ſpare and regular Diet) no other, but that of relaxing the Surface of the Body, and opening the Perſpiratory, or ſudorific Pores. And although this was

(a) Vid. Dodon. prax. p. 3. & alios paſſim.

was done chiefly by external Applications, ſuch as Baths of warm Water, Friction, and Unction; yet inward Means were ſometimes found proper for the ſame End, according to the Nature, and Exigence of the particular Cauſe. "Thus Cassius, the moſt ingenious Phiſitian of our Age, ſays "(a) Celsus, cured a Perſon of a Fever "(which was got by Drinking too much "Wine, and attended with great Thirſt,) "by giving him large Draughts of cold "Water, and thereby putting him into "a Sweat, and making him Sleep.

XII. "The ſame Author (b) informs us, that among the Antients, "before the Days of Herophilus,

(a) Præf. Medic. p. 18.
(b) Medecin. p. 137.

"and Erasistratus, and very soon "after those of Hyppocrates, there "was one Petron, who, when he "undertook to Cure any one of a Fe-"ver, covered him up with a large Quan-"tity of Cloaths, in order to excite a "great Heat, and Thirst in him; and "afterwards, when his Fever began to "be a little abated, he gave him cold "Water to Drink, by which Means, "if he made him Sweat, he thought he "had extricated him from all Danger."

XIII. Nor are the Objections commonly raised against the Promoting of Sweat, in the Beginning of Fevers, of any Force here; for (a) such Sudorifics only are, in this Case, forbidden by Phisitians,

(a) Vid. de Gort. Med. Comp. p. 277. & alios passim.

Phiſitians, as are apt to ſtimulate the Fibres too much, and thereby increaſe the Cauſes of theſe diſtempers. Whereas thoſe Things, which procure that Evacuation by Relaxing the Solids, and by Thining and Diluting the Humors, are allowed to do great Service, in the Beginning, and every other Period of theſe Diſeaſes.

XIV. And it is, no Doubt, from frequent, and ſucceſsful Experience, grounded on this Maxim, that People are generally ſo fond of Sweating in the Beginning of all Fevers. And indeed this Method, when not abuſed by hot and inflaming Medecines (as it too often is) may be ſupported by the Authority of ſeveral eminent Phiſitians. (*a*) Doctor Harris

(*a*) De Morb. acut. infant. p. 73.

Harris obſerves that in the firſt Inſults of Fevers, when the ſenſible, or inſenſible Perſpiration is much obſtructed, Sweats, whether natural, or procured by Art, are very beneficial. Doctor (*a*) Bryan Robinson has mentioned ſome Fevers, in which a conſtant, gentle Sweat in the Beginning, is of much uſe; and he ſays, that it often cures them in a little Time.

XV. I have frequently ſeen, ſays (*b*) Doctor Frederic Hoffman, poor labouring People, (who had been ſeized with Fevers by being expoſed to the Injurys of the Weather,) ſafely and ſpeedily cured by Means of a Sweat, which was excited with warm Draughts of the decoction of Scabiouse and bleſſed

(*a*) Sup. to Anim. Æcon.
(*b*) De Feb. p. 359.

ſed Thistle in equal Quantitys of Wine and Water. And (*a*) another Author aſſures us, that in Fevers from the ſame Cauſe, he has found nothing more ſucceſsful than, after having firſt opened a Vein, to relax the Surface of the Body by a Sudorific Decoction. "And "my Succeſs in this particular, adds "he, has brought over ſeveral Phiſi- "tians to approve of my Method, who "before never thought of giving Su- "dorifics in ſuch Caſes.

XVI. I muſt add, that even peſtilential Fevers have been cured, by promoting Sweat, from their Beginning, as (*b*) Diemoerbrock, (*c*) Barbet and others teſtify from their own Experience.

(*a*) River. Obſ. com. p. 228.
(*b*) De Peſt. p. 225. & alibi.
(*c*) De Peſt. p. 2.

perience. And SYDENHAM affirms that, after he had begun to follow that Method closely, in the pestilential Fever of 1665 at LONDON, he did not lose one Patient out of all those he attended in that terrible Distemper.

XVII. BUT the Danger of using (a) strong Sudorifics, in the Beginning of Fevers, cannot be too often, nor too strictly cautioned against. Of this Danger (b) Doctor HARRIS has given us a notable instance, in a very distinguished Personage. He tells us that MARY, Queen of ENGLAND, had once acquainted him in Conversation, that she was accustomed, by the Advice of the famous Doctor LOWER, then sometime dead, to take, about bed-time,

(a) Vid. Sydenh. de Feb. p. 72.
(b) Obs. p. 151.

time, a pretty large Dose of the Treacle of *Andromachus*, in Order to promote Sweat, as often as she found herself inclined to a Fever. And although this Conversation happened two Years before the Appearance of the Small-pox, of which she dyed, and Doctor HARRIS had given her all the necessary precautions against the Use of that Medecine, yet, so great was her Confidence in the Advice of her former Phisitian, that afterwards on the very Night, in which she fell ill of that Disease, she had Recourse to her Dose of Treacle, which not having its usual Effect of making her Sweat (although it was repeated next Morning in a double quantity) put her Humors into so great a Ferment, that, when the Small-pox, appeared, it was attended with a Spit-

ting of Blood, purple Spots, and other such desperate Symptoms, that she dyed of it in a very few Days.

XVIII. FROM this Passage, however, it is manifest, that Doctor LOWER thought Sweating at the Beginning of Fevers the best Method to prevent their Increase; and that the Royal Patient had before experienced the good Effects of that Method.

XIX. THE famous (a) BOERHAAVE, after having warned us against the Use of hot, stimulating Things to remove that Coldness and Rigor, which are felt at the Beginning of Fevers, acquaints us, that if, instead of these, we have immediate Recourse to Draughts of

(a) Aphoris. 624. 625. 626.

of warm Water, with which a little Nitre, Wine, and Honey are mixt; and to Bathing, Fomenting, and Waſhing with the ſame, that Rigor and Coldneſs will happily Ceaſe, and all the worſt Symptoms of theſe Diſtempers be ſpeedily prevented.

XX. Doctor *(a)* Bryan Robinson promotes Sweat in the Beginning of ſome Fevers, by Means that are not attended with any Danger. To grown Perſons labouring under this Diſeaſe, he gives a Drachm of the teſtaceous Powders, in three or four Ounces of Cold Water, every third or fourth Hour; and to Children five or ſix Years old, he gives half the Quantity of Powders, in half the Quantity of

(a) Suppl. to Anim. Æconom.

Water; adding this Precaution, that Persons thus treated ought to be Bled and vomited, before they Begin the Use of the Powders, and he proposes this Method, not only in the Beginning of Colds and slight Fevers, but also in high inflamatory Fevers in young Bodies.

XXI. The Sudorifics, says Doctor (a) Harris, which are of Use in the Beginning of Fevers, ought to be mild and temperate; not dry, spirituous Things, taken from the Apothecaryes Shop, but liquid and simple, Such the Kitchen affords; Things, which by their Quantity, will yield Copious Matter to the Sweats, and call them forth

(a) De Morb. infant. p. 73. 74.

forth, not by any innate Heat, but by external, and acquired warmth.

XXII. It was, no Doubt, by causing an easy and general Relaxation of the Surface of the Body, that Baths of warm Water antiently acquired the universal Character of being a certain Cure in Diary Fevers. For Perspiration, from Bathing in warm Water, has been observed by (a) Keil, to arise to the Quantity of a pound, and an half in the Space of an Hour. And there is this further Advantage in perspiration thus caused, above that which is promoted by Exercise and Motion, that the large Evacuation in the former Case, does not lessen the usual Perspiration in the subsequent Hours, as it always

(a) Medecin. Stat. Britan. p. 15. 16.

always does in the Latter. (a) Tralli-an advises those who Labour under a *Causus* or burning Fever, to have themselves bathed all over in warm Water. And (b) Prosper Alpinus not only gives the same Advice, in Fevers that are called putrid, but he likewise informs us, that the best Phisitians among the Antients, made Use of this Remedy in almost all Kinds of Fevers.

XXIII. I shall conclude this Head with a Passage from Celsus, relating chiefly to Diet, wherein are Directions to prevent the Increase of Fevers from their Beginning, given with such Exactness, and promised Certainty, that they very well deserve to be transcribed at Large.

If

(a) De Feb. p. 696.

(b) De Medec Ægypt. p. 114.

" If any Signs of approaching ill-
" neſs appear, ſays that (*a*) Excellent
" Writer, the beſt of all Remedys are
" quiet, and abſtinence. If the Per-
" ſon indiſpoſed muſt Drink, let him
" Drink Water; and generally ſpeak-
" ing, it will be ſufficient for him
" to keep to that Drink for one Day;
" ſometimes, if the Symptoms ſtill re-
" main, it will be neceſſary to continue
" it for two. Next to abſtinence, a
" very ſpare Diet is proper; with
" which Water muſt be drunk one
" Day, and Wine the next; and ſo
" on, until all Cauſe of Fear is re-
" moved. By theſe Means an heavy,
" and imminent Diſeaſe is often preven-
" ted. And many are deceived, who
" think to put of a Beginning Sickneſs,
" by

(*a*) De Medecin. p. 114.

" by Exercise, or Bathing, or Purging,
" or Vomiting, or Sweating, or the
" Use of Wine, on the first Day of its
" Appearance. Not that these Things
" have not sometimes a good Ef-
" fect; but because they are oftener
" attended with a bad one; while ab-
" stinence alone Cures without any
" Danger; for it may be lessened,
" or increased according to the Degree
" of the Sickness; insomuch, that, if
" the Symptoms be light, it will suf-
" fice to abstain from Wine only, the
" Disuse of which, in this Case, will
" be of more service to the Sick,
" than lessening the Quantity of his
" Food can be. And although his
" Complaints should be somewhat
" greater, it will be enough to forbid
" him the Use of Flesh in his Diet,
" and

" and to confine him to the Drinking
" of Water. Sometimes, indeed, it
" will be neceſſary to allow him leſs
" even of Bread than uſual, and to tye
" him down to a moiſt Herb-diet.
" And ſhould even the Signs of a violent
" Diſtemper treaten him, it will be
" ſufficient to abſtain intirely from
" Food, the Uſe of Wine, and all
" Motion of the Body. *Nor is it at*
" *all to be doubted, that ſcarce any one*
" *hath fallen into an heavy Fit of Sick-*
" *neſs, who has ſeriouſly, and in Time,*
" *taken thoſe Methods to prevent it.*

XXIV. I muſt obſerve by the Way, that when Celsus acquaints us, that many are deceived, who think to put off a Beginning Sickneſs by Bathing, or Sweating *&c* he ought to be pre-

sumed to mean those People, who place their intire Confidence in such Methods, without having at the same Time, any Regard to abstinence and quiet.

PART III.

Of the Production of the Symptoms of Ordinary Fevers, as evidently deduced from Experience and Observation.

ALTHOUGH (a) it be extremely difficult, to give an exact Definition of the Nature of Fevers, on Account of the great Variety of their Causes and Symptoms; yet these are sure to find in all Bodies, affected with them, a Shortness of Breath, that is generally brought on by a Coldness and Shuddering, to which a Burn-

(a) Vid. de Gort. de Feb.

ING HEAT ſucceeds; and laſtly a SWEAT breaks forth, by which an End is put to all the Symptoms.

AND it is plain, from (a) the dryneſs and Contraction of the external Parts of the Body, in the Beginning of theſe Diſtempers; from the Smallneſs of the Pulſe, the Coldneſs of the Hands and Feet, and the Subſiding of the Veſſels in them; from the Breathing difficult, and the Feeling of Blood as it were boil about the Præcordia; "from all theſe Things, I ſay, happening in the Beginning of Fevers, it "is plain (b) that the vital Fluids are, "then firſt driven from the Surface, "of the Body into the internal, large Veſſels,

(a) Vid. Fred. Hoffm. de Feb.
(b) Id. ibid.

"Veſſels, and towards the Heart; and "that theſe Fluids are, afterwards, by "the increaſed Contraction of the "Heart, and Arterys, ſwiftly and for-"ceably puſhed outwards into the nar-"rower Veſſels; until ſuch Time as, "by the Removal of the Spaſms, "the uſual Secretions return, and the "Fever ceaſes."

This retrograde Motion of the vital Fluids from the conſtringed Surface of the Body into its Center, has been long ſince diſcovered, and accurately deſcribed by (a) HYPPOCRATES himſelf. For, treating of the Beginning of Fevers, he tells us, "That the Blood, then, "creeps over the whole Body, and "runs together into its warmeſt Parts.

----- But

(a) Hypp. Foes. Lib. de flat. Fol. 298

"---- But, when, continues he, the "Blood has FORSAKEN the EXTRE-"MITYS, the Bowels and the Fleſh "tremble. For ſome Parts of the Bo-"dy are replenished with a great Quan-"tity of Blood, and others are left "bloodleſs. And thoſe Parts, which "the Blood has forſaken, cannot reſt "through Cold, but are ſhaken; and "thoſe Parts, which are filled with a "great Quantity of Blood, tremble on "account of that fullneſs, and INFLAM-"MATIONS are excited in them.

A remarkable Inſtance of the great Power of the conſtriction of the Surface, in repelling whatever is therein contained, into the larger Cavitys of the Body, we find in (a) BASILIUS, who informs

---- But

(a) Prax. Pyr. 343.

informs us, that when he had opened a very ſtrong Man (who had dyed of a Fever that begun with violent Rigors, ſucceeded by Convulſions,) almoſt all the Fat, which had layn towards his Skin was by the great Contractions of the external Fibres, driven inwards to the Center; and that in ſuch Quantity, and ſo diſſolved, that his lax, and flaccid Inteſtines were found ſwimming in it.

From hence it follows, that the firſt apparent Symptom of a Fever is a Conſtriction, Coldneſs, Rigor, or Trembling in the Surface of the Body, which, by driving the Blood in great Quantity, from thence into the inner, and larger Veſſels, and thereby preternaturaly

raly distending them, is the (*a*) Cause of that Pain in the Head, Back, or Breast; of that Heat, Thirst, Anxiety, and Oppression about the Heart, and all the other Griveances that commonly attend this Disease. (*b*) Thus the greater the Coldness, or Rigor is, at the Beginning of Fevers, the more dangerous always are these Distempers; and the Coldness, which Ushers in the Plague, is generally greatest. Thus likewise whatever Occasions a considerable, and lasting Constriction of the Surface of the Body,

(*a*) Retrogrado enim (in Febrium Initio) & morante Sanguine in Corporis Centro, quæ Fluidorum, quæ Solidorum exurgunt CRUDITATIS Signa se produnt --- atefcit os, siccatur Alvus, nitent Urinæ, feriantur secretiones. Hequ. de purg. Med. p. 266.

Quippe densata est, in Febrium Principio, ac Incremento cutis, & ea, quæ subhac habetur, Carnea substantia. Gal. Meth. Lib. 2

(*b*) Boerh. Aph. 623.

Body, as (a) Bathing in Waters that are too hot, or aſtringent, is apt to produce Fevers of all Sorts. And, on the other Hand, whatever brings about an early Removal of this Rigor, or Conſtriction, and thereby promotes an eaſy, and univerſal Moiſture of the Skin, will (as we have already ſhewn at large in the ſecond Part of this Essay) ſpeedily prevent all the worſt Symptoms of thoſe Diſorders.

The Truth of this Reaſoning is further confirmed, by the prognoſtic Signs that are obſerved, both in Bodies recovering from theſe Diſtempers, and in thoſe that are dying of them. For as to the firſt, Experience and Obſer-

(a) Fred. Hoff. de aqu. min. Vid. Gal. meth. med. lib. 8. cap. 2.

vation have always shewn us, that no Fevers are completely cured, until the Skin, from being dry, and contracted, becomes all over (*a*) soft, relaxed, and moist. And as to the second, it is well known, that the Continuance, and Increase of the Contraction of the Skin in the decline of these Disorders, (which (*b*) Cold Extremitys, the Temples collapsed, the Nose sharpened, the Eyes sunk, and the Drying up of Issues, and Ulcers plainly indicate) are but too often the certain fore-runners of Death.

And the Reason of these Prognostics is very evident, and naturally flows from the Idea we have given of Fevers. For, as the sick then only recover from them,

(*a*) Vid. Etmull. de Feb. p. 218. & alios
(*b*) Vid. Hypp. præn. Coac. Celf. Med. p. 54.

them, when, by the Removal of the Spaſms in the ſuperficial Parts of the Body, a free Paſſage is again opened to the Humours that way, from the over-loaded VISCERA, (as in a complete and ſalutary CRISIS) ſo, by a too long Continuance, or great increaſe of theſe Spaſms, and by the morbid Fullneſs and Diſtenſion of the Parts within, conſequent thereto, the Heart, and Brain muſt, at length, be intirely diſabled from performing thoſe Functions, on which the Lives of all Animals do abſolutely depend. For this Reaſon it is, that the ſick are in (a) great Danger in continual Fevers, when, after a Rigor or Shuddering, they do not grow warm. Hence likewiſe thoſe who dye of intermitting Fe-

(a) Lem. Obs. p. 7.

vers, commonly expire in the Cold Fit. And in all dead Bodies the right Ventricle of the Heart is found very much distended with Blood.

From what has been said, it follows that Crudity in Fevers, so much talked of, and so little understood, is in Truth nothing else, but an (a) irregular, and devious Motion of the Vital Fluids, from the constringed Surface of the Body, into the Viscera, causing such a Fullness, and Distension in them, as are apt to produce the usual Symptoms of these Distempers; and that their Crisis, therefore, consists, not in the Expulsion of any morbific Matter out of the Body; but only in the Removal of that Constriction

of

(a) Vid. Heq. de Purg. Med. p. 206.

of the Surface, and in an Opportunity, thereby, given to Nature to reſtore to the vital Juices their due, and regular Motion through all their uſual Channels. Wherefore the Evacuations, commonly happening in this Period of Fevers, ought to be looked upon meerly as the Effects of that general Relaxation of the Solids, which then always enſues; and to be helpful to the ſick, in no other manner, but by taking off that extraordinary Fullneſs in the Bowels, from whence all their Complaints aroſe.

And, although, when theſe Diſeaſes are left to themſelves, and Art does not interfere with them, theſe Evacuations, for the moſt Part, happen on certain Days, which are therefore diſtinguiſhed by the Name of Critical; yet we often

often find the Matter otherwiſe, when proper Remedys have been adminiſtered from the Beginning, in order to put a Stop to them. For which Reaſon (a) modern Phiſitians pay not altogether ſo ſcrupulous a Regard to thoſe Days, as the Antients have done; who were more employed in obſerving the Progreſs, and Changes of Diſtempers, than in applying Medecines for their Cure. Thus we have already ſhewn, from the concurring Teſtimonys of the beſt Phiſitians, that an End may be put to ordinary Fevers on the firſt, or ſecond Day of their Appearance, though neither of theſe Days was ever accounted CRITICAL.

IN this manner, may I be explained both

(a) Vid. Etmul. Fol. 214. Helmont. de Feb. cap. XI.

both the Symptoms, and Events of ordinary Fevers, as arising ſolely from a preternatural Change in the Solid Parts of the Body; and without having Recourſe to hypothetical Conjectures of their being cauſed by any acrimonious Impuritys in the Blood itſelf. For it is highly probable, that no ſuch Impuritys can be admitted through the extremely ſmall, and delicate Orifices of the lacteal Veſſels; and that as well on Account of the great Irritability of theſe Orifices, (which the Contact of every thing that is acrimonious muſt immediately cloſe) as likewiſe, becauſe theſe Veſſels are formed only for the Reception of ſuch a Liquor as may contribute to the Nouriſhment, and Preſervation of the Animal, or at leaſt is not deſtructive

tive of it. Thus we find, says (a) Hequet, that a sower Chyle is always refused by them, and cast out of the Body in loose Stools. Or, if any such Impuritys, wrapt up perhaps in smooth Chyle, should be suffered to pass through these Vessels into the Blood, Nature has provided various Outlets to discharge them by; and more Superfluitys of any Kind, than can be readily discharged by these Outlets, it is not reasonable to think she will receive.

In the Progress of Fevers indeed, when, by Means of the Spasms in the Surface, Obstructions have been already formed in the Bowels, and the usual Secretions have been stopt, the Blood may become too thick, or otherwise impure,

(a) De Purg. Medec.

impute, as flow-moving, or ſtagnating Waters may be foul and corrupted, (a) but as this happens only ſecundarily, and by accident, it ought to be conſidered, in theſe Diſtempers, merely as a Symptom, but never as a Cauſe. Thus it hath been obſerved, that Fevers frequently happen to Bodies, (b) whoſe Humours are pure, though theſe Humours may be afterwards tainted in the Courſe of the Sickneſs. And it has been always remarked, that (c) putrid Fevers themſelves are moſt incident to Perſons, of a ſound, laudable, and well-conditioned Blood.

THAT the Tenacity of the Blood, in theſe Diſeaſes, is in Truth nothing

(a) Id ibid.
(b) Vid. Syd. de Feb.
(c) Vid. Lom. Obs. p. 4. & alios.

more than the Effect of those Rigors at the Beginning of them, which slacken, and obstruct its Motion in the superficial Parts of the Body, appears, I think, from hence, that, if Blood be drawn during those Rigors, it shall be found so thick, and tenacious, as to pass with Difficulty through the Orifice that is made in the Vein; but it will be much thinner, and come out with greater Freedom, if it be drawn either sometime before those Rigors have been felt, or when they are abated.

AND, in general, the Appearances of Blood drawn in these, and other Distempers, are so various and uncertain, that a prudent Physician will hardly lay any Stress upon them in Chusing his Method of Cure. (a) BAGLIVI has

(a) Prax. p. 143.

has obſerved, that almoſt all thoſe have been recovered from acute Diſeaſes, whoſe Blood, when drawn, was covered with a White, and Chylous Cruſt; which, however, is vulgarly looked upon as a Mark of bad, and even corrupted Blood. And (a) Frederic Hoffman informs us, that he has often ſeen Blood, taken from ſcorbutical and hectical People, that was elegantly Red and fluid, while that which had been drawn from ſound, and healthy Perſons, was thick, black, and glutinous. And I have obſerved, (b) continues he, Blood to flow from Arterys opened in a virulent Cancer, which was fluid, of a fine Red Colour, and in all Appearance,

(a) Therapeut. p. 277.
(b) Id ibid.

pearance, without Fault. (a) Bal-lonius affirms, "that impure Blood "has been taken from many, whose "inward Parts appeared, after Death, "to have been sound; and that pure "Blood has been drawn from others, "whose Lungs, and Bowels have been "found to be rotten."

All Attempts therefore to cure Fevers by directly attenuating the Blood; or by correcting, or expelling any *morbific Matter* supposed to be in it, must be vain, and fruitless; inasmuch as they are levelled, not at the Causes, but meerly at the Effects of these Disorders. And indeed, that the rectifying of the solid Parts of the Body, ought to be the Phisitian's chief Care, in these and

(a) De sang. Miss.

and other Diſeaſes, ſeems reaſonable from this Conſideration, that the (*a*) Operation of ſuch Medecines, as have been found ſucceſsful againſt the moſt dangerous and obſtinate Diſtempers, is, in all Probability, confined to theſe Parts; and that they produce their moſt ſalutary Effects, in the (*b*) Stomach and Guts, by affecting principally their nervous Coats, and other Parts of the Body by Conſent only. We have already obſerved, that acid Medecines, which are allowed to be of great Uſe in Fevers, are intirely changed in the *firſt Ways*; or at leaſt, ſoon after they have been received into the Blood.

It

(*a*) Vid. Fred. Hoffm. diſs. de Inteſt. duoden.
(*b*) Id. diſs. de inſl. Ventric. Helmont. Fol. 300.

IT now remains to ſhew, by what Means that Rigor and Conſtriction of the Surface, from which, we have proved, all the other Symptoms of Fevers ariſe, are themſelves produced; and theſe Means I take to be no other, but thoſe very Things which are commonly called the remote Cauſes of theſe Diſorders; *viz.* Cold taken, Exceſſes in Eating and Drinking, the Suppreſſion of ſome uſual Diſcharge, Trouble of Mind, and other Accidents of the like Nature, when great and ſudden.

FOR, Firſt, as to Cold taken, a Rigor and Conſtriction of the Surface, and a Fever thence enſuing, are ſuch common and obvious Effects of it, that all Proof on this Head is unneceſſary.

Thus

Thus the (a) antient Physitians generally attributed the Rise even of putrid Fevers, to no other Cause, but the Obstruction of the Pores of the Skin.

Secondly, Excesses in Eating and Drinking are apt to leave Crudities in the Stomach, which, by remaining there for a certain Time, grow acrid, and vellicate its nervous Coat, and from thence a Rigor or Constriction may be propagated by Consent, to the Surface of the Body. Of this Consent of the Stomach with the Skin, we have a plain Proof, in those who are apt to shudder after having taken Things that are acrid or sower. And Glu-

sus,

(a) Vid. Gal. II. Meth. &c.

sus, FERNELIUS, and ETMULLER plainly insinuate, that the Cause of those Horrors, which commonly introduce Fevers, often lies in the Stomach only.

THIRDLY, In the Suppression of every usual Discharge, especially when great and sudden, there is a morbid Fullness, in the Vessels, from whence the Discharge used to be made; and this Fullness, must necessarily occasion a Spasm, or Constriction in other Parts, but in none to such a Degree, as in those at the Surface and Extremities, by Reason of their great and general Consent with all the rest of the Body. Thus (a) HYPO-

(a) Coac. Præn. Vol. 444.

Hyppocrates has obſerved, that a dangerous Rigor enſues upon the untimely Suppreſſion of the Purgations of Women in Child-bed, or after a Miſcarriage. And hence, on the other Hand, Baths of warm Water *(a)*, by relaxing the Skin, inviting the Humours thither, and opening the perſpiratory Pores, are apt to remove Obſtructions in the inner Veſſels, and by that Means, often renew thoſe Diſcharges from them, which had been ſuppreſt.

Lastly, That Trouble of Mind occaſions Fevers by affecting the Surface in the ſame Manner, appears

(a) Vid. Proſp. Alp. de Med. Ægypt. p. 114.

from the Method of Cure, ſucceſsfully uſed by the antient Phiſitians in the Beginning of Fevers ſo cauſed, which was no other, but Friction, Unction, and the warm Bath.

Thus have we aſſigned for the Production of thoſe Rigors, that generally uſher in Fevers, Cauſes, which are plain and ſufficient, and may be eaſily removed, together with their ill Effects, by a timely Application of *(a)* proper Remedies. And we have excluded, from that Denomination, ſuch Things only as, whatever may be thought of them, have been proved to be meerly Effects of theſe Diſtempers, hardly, if at all, to be come at by the Medecines uſual in theſe

(a) Vid. Part the ſecond of this Eſſay.

theſe Caſes, and which, therefore, ſerve for no other Purpoſe, but to terrify the Sick, and miſlead the Phiſitian.

FINIS.

Male Cole, and white, diaper,
Serge for no other Purpose, but to
mourn the Sick, and mulled till
Buried.